

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Yutaka MITANI, et al.  
 SERIAL NO: 10/589,580  
 FILED: August 16, 2006  
 FOR: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING BIOGAS



GAU:  
 EXAMINER:

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
 ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

## REFERENCES

The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449, some of which are cited in the attached International Search Report and International Preliminary Report on Patentability. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.

A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

## RELATED CASES

Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s), published application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. In accordance with the waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 dated September 21, 2004, copies of the cited pending applications are not provided. Cited published and/or issued patents, if any, are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.

A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

## CERTIFICATION

Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

## DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

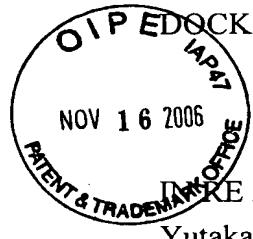
OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
 MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
 Norman F. Oblon

Corwin P. Umbach, Ph.D.  
 Registration No. 40,211

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000  
 Fax. (703) 413-2220  
 (OSMMN 05/03)



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**STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY**

**References AM through AO on Form PTO-1449:**

These references are cited in the specification.

Form PTO 1460  
(Modified)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

ATTY DOCKET NO.  
295054US0PCTSERIAL NO.  
10/589,580

## APPLICANT

Yutaka MITANI, et al.

## FILING DATE

August 16, 2006

## GROUP

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
AA							
AB							
AC							
AD							
AE							
AF							
AG							
AH							
AI							
AJ							
AK							
AL							

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION	YES	NO
AM	61-8200	01/14/1986		Japan (with English abstract)			X
AN	2001-149983	06/05/2001		Japan (with English abstract)			X
AO	2003-135089	05/13/2003		Japan (with English abstract)			X
AP	5-96294	04/20/1993		Japan (with English abstract)			X
AQ	7-136694	05/30/1995		Japan (with English abstract)			X
AR	2003-116589	04/22/2003		Japan (with English abstract)			X
AS	2003-135089	05/13/2003		Japan (with English abstract)			X
AT	2004-194625	07/15/2004		Japan (with English abstract)			X
AU	2005-13045	01/20/2005		Japan (with English abstract)			X
AV	2005-66420	03/17/2005		Japan (with English abstract)			X

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

AW		
AX		
AY		
AZ		<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached

Examiner

Date Considered

\*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.